

From: carolyn.davidson@wachovia.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 9:15am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Please see the attached as my views on this matter. I am involved in the commerce of the technology sector in the RTP. THank you for your attention.

(See attached file: USAGDavidson_Carolyn_1006_0121.doc)

Carolyn Davidson

46 Kimberly Drive, Durham, NC 27707

January 22, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
The Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

The purpose of this letter is to voice my support for the settlement that was reached between the Department of Justice and Microsoft. Since the beginning of this case, three years ago, the Department of Justice has spent an enormous amount of time and money pursuing the anti-trust dispute. While I certainly speculate the merits of this case, I was pleased to finally see the end of this dispute. I believe it is in the best interests of everyone involved that the matter be resolved. Given the current state of the economy, resolution of this case would naturally spur economic recovery in the technology markets, which is important here in the Research Triangle.

The terms of the agreement represent compromise on the behalf of Microsoft. The stipulations of the settlement call for the licensing of Microsoft at a uniform rate to the largest twenty PC manufacturers. In addition to this, Microsoft is also willing to disclose the protocols of the Windows design system, allowing for the design of software that is increasingly compatible with Windows.

It is my opinion that the settlement should be enacted at the end of January. I certainly believe that the time has come for resolution. Resolution in this matter is altogether beneficial. Thank you for your time regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Davidson